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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (e)
Environment and sustainable development:
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Morocco:* draft resolution

Natural disasters and vulnerability

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 57/547 of 20 December 2002;

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[2] adopted by the World Summit, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

Recognizing the substantial increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters, and expressing concern that this trend is likely to continue in the future,

Expressing its deep concern at the enormous negative impact of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters, which continues to hinder social and economic progress, in particular of developing countries, including small island developing States, which bear a disproportionate share of the burden of economic, social and environmental consequences of disasters,

Taking into account the various ways and forms in which all countries, in particular the more vulnerable developing countries, are being exposed to extreme weather events of global reach, such as the El Niño phenomenon,

Noting that the global environment continues to suffer, thus creating additional vulnerabilities, in particular to developing countries,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

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Taking into account that extreme weather events and associated natural disasters and their reduction must be dealt with in a coherent manner,

1. *Takes note* of the separate section on the negative impacts of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters on vulnerable countries, in particular developing countries, contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,[3] as requested by the Assembly in its decision 57/547;

2. *Urges* the international community to continue to address ways and means, including through the promotion of cooperation and technical assistance, to reduce the adverse effects of natural disasters, including extreme weather events, in particular in vulnerable countries, through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, which provides a framework for collaboration on the development of methodologies to systematically characterize, measure, assess and respond to natural disasters, including weather-related disasters, hazards and vulnerabilities, and encourages the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction to continue its work in this regard;

3. *Encourages* the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, to enhance the coordination on the promotion of disaster reduction as well as to make available to the secretariats of the relevant United Nations entities information on options for natural disasters reduction, including weather-related disasters, hazards and vulnerabilities;

4. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] and the parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[5] to continue to address the adverse effects of climate change, especially in those developing countries that are particularly vulnerable, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, and also encourages the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to continue to assess the adverse effects of climate change on the socio-economic and natural systems of developing countries;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution in a separate section of his report on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

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[3] A/58/277, chap. II.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[5] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.